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Robert Barnwell to Susan Kean, February 1, 1799

Robert Barnwell

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S. Madam

Beaufort Feb^y: 1799.

Although I have received several let-
ters from you nevertheless I have never been until now
able to persuade myself to write to you because I
have never had it in my power to transmit you
any part of the annual sum due you. I now do myself
the pleasure through my factors Messrs Banderhast & Miller
of Charleston to remit you the sum of two thousand
dollars and am very sorry that I cannot send you the
whole sum due but in addition to my not having
received anything on acc^t of the Bonds assigned me by
Mr Keen which has embarrassed me much with Mr
Huber. I have had the common misfortune of making
an extreme bad crop the last year. However should
I be able to collect any money I shall balance on
acc^t. Your letters have determined me to accept
of the trust and in order to effect this legally I

must request of you to send me by the first opportunity a copy of McKean's Will duly certified in order to enable me to record here.

I take this opportunity to impress you with an Idea which I have mentioned in a former letter and which you do not appear to have duly noticed which is this. That McKean had no lands in Georgia which I can act as trustee of his lands were either made over in trust for you and Peter or sold me or were sold under an Execution of your late Father and bought in by me under proper authority of your Father's Executors and I have no account of any reconveyance by them to McKean previous to his death. This being so I can assure you that the inconvenience of attending to any business in Georgia is so great that I must decline acting ~~to~~ in regard to the concerns there altogether and advise you without delay to get proper autho

rites and send a power of Attorney to some one to act
for you. The most I can will promise to do is regard
to this property is. That if you will obtain the proper
powers for me to act as the attorney in this concern
legally executed. and enabling me to employ agents
if I think proper. I will in this case act to the best
of my power. On this subject permit me again
to inform you. that I think you must have the
titles to several tracts of land in Georgia and here
because they are neither here nor in Georgia. and
you run the risk of losing some on this acc. Let
me then advise you either to send what you have
if any. or to get some ^{& trusts} careful hand to copy them
and send the copies here. this is of much impor
tance to you. If you will follow my advice
if you send a power of Attorney to me in regard
to the lands which I bought in on acc^t of your
fathers estate. you will authorize me either to sell

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before his death and has been made since
to you. which by Mr. Keane's letters to me. you
were entitled to. you may authorize me if I can
do it on good terms. to sell so much of the land
in Georgia as will settle my demand. for permit
me to say that my conduct in regard to that
debt was the greatest favor I ever conferred
upon any one. and if you can possibly relieve
me. I ought not to suffer.

As I flatter myself that information in regard
to them will be welcome to you. I take the liberty of
saying that my wife Mr. Barnwell is well we have but
one little daughter alive, we have had the misfortune to lose
my Brother Nath. my sister Catharine my nephew William Barn
well and several of the children of our family. My Mother
has been very ill. and I fear is now confined to her
room and almost to her bed by her last sickness. The
loss of so many of her family has loaded her last
days with sorrows and sickness. and she now verges rapid

to her grave.

In regard to yourself and family I can assure you
that I shall ever take great interest in what relates
to them. do me therefore the favor to be remembered
most affectionately to Mr and Mr Kickett and their
family. Do me also the particular favor of being remem-
bered to the family of Mr Le Roy and those who were
once the Miss Edwards, whom many frequently follow
wherever they are. Present also my compliments to
your Father and if you should see him to my respec-
ted friend Mr Benson and all who may remem-
ber or enquire after me - Speak of me to Peter and re-
mind him that I take much interest in his future
improvements and conduct. And believe me to be
with great sincerity

Your constant Well Wisher

Robt Barnwell

M^{rs} Susan Kean.